JOHN JENNINGS · VALENTINE De LANDRO · MATT MILLA

SILVER SURFER

GHOST LIGHT

MARVEL

3

TO SAVE HIS PLANET, NORRIN RADD SURRENDERED HIS FREEDOM TO BECOME HERALD TO THE WORLD-DEVOURING GALACTUS. COATED WITH GALACTIC GLAZE, GIVEN A SURFBOARD OBEYING HIS MENTAL COMMANDS AND GRANTED THE POWER COSMIC, HE NOW SOARS THE UNIVERSE AS A SHINING SENTINEL OF THE SPACE WAYS!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS...

SILVER SURFER

GHOST LIGHT

PREVIOUSLY...

TONI BROOKS AND HER FAMILY HAVE MOVED INTO THE QUIET TOWN OF SWEETWATER. BUT THIS TOWN IS FULL OF MYSTERIES—THE CENTRAL ONE BEING: WHAT HAPPENED TO TONI'S UNCLE, AL HARPER, WHO SUDDENLY VANISHED YEARS AGO?

TONI AND HER BROTHER, JOSH, FOUND A CLUE AS THEY STUMBLED UPON A HIDDEN LAB UNDERNEATH THEIR HOME AND UNLEASHED A COSMIC BEING TONI HAD ONLY SEEN IN HER DREAMS. THAT BEING WAS NONE OTHER THAN AL HARPER!

AL'S AWAKENING CREATED A COSMIC ENERGY SIGNATURE THAT NOT ONLY BROUGHT HIS FRIEND, THE SILVER SURFER, BUT ALSO THE VILLAINOUS FORCES WHO WANT TO CONTROL HIM!

PART 3: **"TOO MUCH INFORMATION"**

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SWEETWATER, NEW YORK.

IMPOSSIBLE! THE CREATURES HAVE BEEN REVIVED!

THE ID-LEECHES ARE EXTENSIONS OF THE STRANGER'S MANY MINDS!

THEY'LL NEVER STOP!

I'LL NEVER BE RID OF THOSE THINGS AND THE MONSTER WHO MADE THEM!

NOW THEY ARE ENDANGERING MY FAMILY!

AL, REST ASSURED, I WILL NEVER LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO THEM.

EVEN THE STRANGER'S ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CAN'T GET THROUGH THIS ENERGY BARRIER!

AL...UM... MR. SURFER. SOMETHING'S GOING ON WITH OUR KIDS!

DONNIE? GLENDA? WHEN DID THIS START?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, AL? THIS STARTED WITH YOU!

YOU NEED TO FIGURE THIS OUT! THIS IS TOO MUCH! YOU COME BACK FROM THE DEAD AND NOW...TONI AND JOSH... I JUST...

GLENDA, I AM SO, SO SORRY. BUT I PROMISE YOU... WE ARE GOING TO GET THROUGH THIS.

THE SURFER AND I WILL RUN SOME TESTS ON THE KIDS IN THE LAB.

I'M GOING WITH YOU.

I WOULDN'T EXPECT ANYTHING ELSE, DONNIE.

OKAY, GUYS! WHO WANTS SOMETHING TO EAT?

I *DO!* I EAT WHEN I'M NERVOUS.

I WANT MY MOM! FOOD IS ALSO NICE THOUGH.

I HATE SUMMER CAMP! I HATE IT!

IN AL B. HARPER'S LAB.

WHAT THE HELL ARE THOSE THINGS OUTSIDE, AL?

THEY ARE PHYSICAL MANIFESTATIONS OF THE BILLIONS OF DARK IDENTITIES HOUSED WITHIN THE MINDS OF THE STRANGER.

THEY TAKE OVER OTHER BODIES AND *CONTROL* THEM FOR THEIR MASTER!

TONI, ARE YOU IN ANY PAIN?

NO, UNCLE AL. I FEEL... I FEEL GOOD, ACTUALLY.

LET'S SEE. THIS COULD WORK. HERE'S A SCANNER.

ARE YOU...MAKING SOMETHING TO HELP US?

THAT'S THE PLAN. JUST GIVE ME A FEW MINUTES.

THE NANOBOTS IN ME...THEY ARE GOING TO HELP US OUT.

HELP HOW?

WELL, I'M NOT ACTUALLY SURE, BUT WE'LL FIGURE IT OUT... TOGETHER.

UNCLE AL? YOU MET, LIKE, A LOT OF ALIENS, RIGHT? DID THEY HAVE ACID FOR BLOOD AND STUFF?

THIS IS A NERD NIGHTMARE!

NO, JOSH. THEY DID NOT HAVE ACID FOR BLOOD, AND I DIDN'T MEET ANY THAT EXPLODE FROM YOUR CHEST EITHER.

SO, WERE THEY, LIKE, CARBON-BASED LIKE US, OR WERE THEY MADE UP OF SOME OTHER ELEMENTS?

LIKE, A MERCURY-BASED PERSON WOULD BE REALLY COOL!

CAN YOU... CAN YOU STOP? PLEASE?

HEH. I HAVE TO SAY, JOSH, I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO REALLY GET TO KNOW MY FELLOW CAPTIVES ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL.

OKAY! OKAY! SO, DID THE ALIENS HAVE MUSIC? LIKE, DID THEY SING?

-SIGH-

ONE THING THAT I KNOW NOW FOR CERTAIN, JOSH...

...EVERYTHING IN THE UNIVERSE SINGS.

THERE YOU GO! YOU'RE RIGHT AS RAIN NOW!

MY EYES AREN'T SHINY ANYMORE?

GOOD! I THOUGHT MY SOCIAL MEDIA DAYS WERE NUMBERED!

WHATEVER THAT WAS SEEMED TO BE A TEMPORARY RESIDUAL EFFECT, GUYS.

ARE...YOU...ARE YOU SURE?

THANKS, UNCLE AL. NOW I'LL JUST BE A REGULAR OUTCAST AT SCHOOL. IF I SURVIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GO TO SCHOOL HERE, THAT IS...

EVERYTHING CHECKS OUT, DONNIE.

THANK YOU! GLENDA WILL BE SO RELIEVED!

NORRIN? WHAT'S WRONG?

AL. I HEARD WHAT YOU TOLD YOUR FAMILY. I CAN SEE WITH MY COSMIC SENSES THAT THE CHILDREN'S DNA STRUCTURE IS BEING REWRITTEN BY THEIR EXPOSURE TO THE POWER COSMIC.

YOUR NANOTECH SIMPLY ABSORBED THAT EXCESS ENERGY. WHY WOULD YOU LIE TO THEM?

I KNOW THAT IT'S HARD TO UNDERSTAND THE EMOTIONAL MACHINATIONS OF US HUMANS, NORRIN, BUT BELIEVE ME WHEN I TELL YOU...

...THERE'S NO WAY THAT THEY COULD HANDLE THE TRUTH. WHICH IS...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TONI AND JOSH ARE BECOMING.

THERE'S NO WAY THEY COULD TAKE THAT KNOWLEDGE. SOMETIMES, YOU HAVE TO LIE TO PROTECT PEOPLE. I KNOW THAT MORE THAN MOST.

THOUGH I AM SURE I DON'T AGREE, I WILL FOLLOW YOUR LEAD AND KEEP THIS NEWS CLOSE.

LAB WORLD, HOME OF THE STRANGER.

THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE!

TRULY UNACCEPTABLE!

HOW DID THE HUMAN ESCAPE IN THE FIRST PLACE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? HARPER OBVIOUSLY HAD ASSISTANCE!

OF COURSE! THERE IS NO WAY HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN OUT WITHOUT AID!

THAT IS RIDICULOUS! AND MORE SO...IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

WHATEVER! HE OBVIOUSLY HAD HELP! THE QUESTION IS...

...WHO? HOW DO WE FIND OUT SO IT NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN?

I SUGGEST WE ASK OUR ALIEN GUESTS IN THE MOST PAINFUL MANNER POSSIBLE...

"...YES, I THINK WE START THERE..."

WHOA! DO YOU FEEL THAT? I CAN SENSE...SOME VERY POWERFUL TECH HEADED OUR WAY.

YES, AL. I FEEL IT TOO. THERE'S A POWER SIGNATURE SIMILAR TO COSMIC ENERGY POWERING IT TOO. WE MUST READY OURSELVES.

VERROOSHHHHH

WHA-WHAT IS THAT?

THAT DOES NOT SOUND GOOD!

AL! WHAT'S GOING ON?

BROTHER, I HAVE NO IDEA!

OKAY, BABY. MOMMA'S HERE!

D-DAD?

IT'S OKAY. WE'RE SAFE IN HERE. DON'T YOU WORRY.

"NOW, MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS..."

...LET'S DO READINGS ON THIS AREA AND COLLECT EVERYTHING WE CAN. LET'S INTRODUCE OURSELVES.

DR. HARPER, WE KNOW YOU ARE IN THERE!

I AM DR. SOMBRA SOLOMON, SCARLET SECTOR'S SUPREME COMMANDER, WITH ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS.

YOU REMEMBER US, DON'T YOU, DR. HARPER?

THAT'S WHO I WAS WORKING FOR-- A.I.M.

I'M SORRY, MOMMA. WE'RE OUT OF TIME.

THEY ARE BRILLIANT AND RUTHLESS AND WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET WHAT THEY WANT.

WHICH IS WHAT?

THEY WANT ME, AND THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO GIVE THEM.

I NEED YOU TO STOP FRIGHTENING MY FAMILY! I WILL GO WITH YOU!

AL! NO!

THEY WILL NOT BE TAKING YOU ANYWHERE!

AWWW... THIS IS ALREADY BORING ME TO TEARS. TAKE THEM OUT, AND WE'LL BRING THE SILVER GUY ALONG WITH US TOO!

FIRE!
I--UNGHH-- ACTUALLY FELT THAT! HOW?
BRAKA BRAKA BRAKA
ARGGHH!!!
THAT'S RIGHT! KEEP ON THEM!
THEY... SEEM TO HAVE SYNTHESIZED COSMIC ENERGY INTO A BLASTER!
HOW DID THEY DO THIS?
IT'S MY FAULT. I WAS STUDYING HOW TO CONTROL COSMIC ENERGY WHEN I WORKED WITH THEM!
BRAKA BRAKA BRAKA
...I HELPED DESIGN THOSE WEAPONS.
[illegible]
WAIT! WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I... WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT IS THIS UNCANNY VAPOR, AL?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING! WHAT THE HELL AM I--?

WHAT IS THIS STUFF?

WHAT THE HOLY GHOSTBUSTERS? THIS IS NOT IN THE MANUAL!

THIS IS NOT IN THE MANUAL!

I SEE! THE NANOBOTS ARE CONNECTING ME TO A.I.M.'S WEAPONS! THIS FEELS SO STRANGE! OKAY. SHIFT THAT CIRCUIT.

ASK IT TO ALTER THE POLARITY.

HA! YES! THAT WILL DO THE TRICK.

UM... DR....SOLOMON? THERE'S...SNOW NOW.

HOW ARE YOU DOING THIS, DR. HARPER?

I WISH I KNEW. MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN THE GROUND.

NO, AL. THIS WAS MY DOING. YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN IN A POSITION TO HAVE TO MAKE THE DECISION YOU DID.

I'M A DAMN FREAK! THE STRANGER TOOK EVERYTHING FROM ME! EVEN MY HUMANI-- UNGHH...FEEL...MY HEAD!

AL! WHAT'S WRONG? AL!

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM? WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I CAN SENSE THAT HIS LIFE SIGNS ARE ERRATIC.

I WILL TAKE HIM TO THE LAB TO SEE IF WE CAN GAIN CLARITY ON HIS AILMENT.

HKSSSSSSSS!

HE'S GOT ANOTHER THING COMING IF HE THINKS WE'RE LEAVING HERE EMPTY-HANDED. I NEED TO KNOW WHAT HARPER HAS BECOME!

SSSSSSSSSS!

WHAT?! WE'RE UNDER ATTACK! ASSUME DEFENSIVE POSITIONS!

USE YOUR SONIC PISTOLS!

DON'T LET THEM FLANK US!

SHOOT TO STUN! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THESE CREATURES!

DO NOT KILL THEM!

BUT, DR. SOLOMON!

YOU HEARD ME! WE NEED SPECIMENS!

I'VE GOT TO GET YOU ALL OUT OF HERE!

THIS IS JUST TOO MUCH. I THOUGHT BEING HERE WOULD HELP MY HEART! THIS IS MESSING WITH MY PRESSURE!

IF I GET HOME ALIVE, I AM NEVER LEAVING MY HOUSE EVER AGAIN!

WOW! I THINK THE WEIRD RED BEEKEEPERS ARE ACTUALLY WINNING!

THIS IS NOT A GAME, JOSH! EITHER WAY, WE'RE THE ONES WHO ARE GOING TO LOSE! THEY BOTH WANT UNCLE AL!

ALL RIGHT! WE ARE DRIVING THEM BACK. TRY TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO RESTRAIN THE UNCONSCIOUS ONES!

Y-YES, DR. SOLOMON! RIGHT AWAY!

BRING THE LEECHES BACK! RETREAT!

NO! WE SHALL NOT BE DENIED THE HUMAN!

WE SHALL GET HIM BACK. BE PATIENT!

THIS TECHNOLOGY... THESE CREATURES... THEY'RE--

YES. NOT OF THIS WORLD. YES, INDEED.

JUST WHAT WE NEED--MORE ALIENS.

WHERE DO YOU THINK THEY ARE GOING?

I'M ABOUT TO FIND OUT! I NEED TO HURRY!

WAIT, WHAT? YOU... YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

I'M AS SERIOUS AS CANCER. YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF SCARLET SECTOR, DR. BRATTON. IT'S BEEN AN HONOR.

THIS IS MADNESS! YOU--YOU CAN'T--

DR. SOLO-- SOMBRA! STOP! STOP!!!

ALLONS-Y!!!

AL, YOU'RE BACK. I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S HAPPENING, BUT YOUR NEURAL PATTERNS ARE EXTREMELY ERRATIC--VIOLENTLY SO.

I FEEL LIKE MY HEAD IS FILLED WITH A STORM...A BILLION STORMS. I DON'T...

WE WILL UNRAVEL THIS MYSTERY AND MAKE YOU WELL.

THANK... Y--

AARGHHH!!! AARGHHHHHHHHAAHHHH!!

AL! HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE? THIS IS....PURE, LIVING COSMIC ENERGY!

YOU? THIS...THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE!

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE...

...NO MATTER HOW STRANGE.

GREETINGS, NORRIN RADD. WE ARE THE *INNER FACTION*-- THE *TRUE* AND UNITED SELF OF THE BEING CALLED THE STRANGER.

AL HARPER AWAKENS, SURFER.

WOW! THAT WAS WILD! I FEEL MUCH BETTER THOUGH.

YOU? OH NO! NOT AGAIN! I'M NOT GOING BACK!

AL HARPER, WE MEAN YOU NO HARM. WE NEED YOUR BRILLIANCE TO CURE OURSELVES.

AFTER ALL THE MISERY YOU'VE CAUSED ME AND MY FAMILY?

YOU REALLY *ARE* INSANE!

WE ARE SO SORRY. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE NOT BEEN OURSELVES FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

"EONS AGO, MY PEOPLE, THE GIGANTIANS, WERE ATTACKED BY THE ETERNALS. OUR PLANET WAS DESTROYED, BUT SOME OF US SURVIVED.

"THOSE SURVIVORS USED AN ADVANCED PROCESS THAT FUSED THEM INTO ONE BEING IMBUED WITH IMMENSE POWER.

"I USED THESE NEW COSMIC ABILITIES TO EXACT REVENGE AGAINST THE ETERNALS!"

HOWEVER, EVEN THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY WEARS OUT.

OVER THE EONS, WE HAVE BEGUN TO COME APART! THE STRANGER IS NOW A LEGION OF INSANE MINDS.

I DIDN'T REALIZE YOUR CONDITION WAS SO CRITICAL! AND YOU'RE...?

A COALITION OF A FEW HUNDRED OF OUR LUCID PERSONALITIES CALLED *THE INNER FACTION.*

WE HID INSIDE THE MADNESS OF THE STRANGER UNTIL WE COULD DEVISE A CURE.

DURING HIS CAPTIVITY, WE SCANNED AL HARPER'S MIND.

YOU DID *WHAT?!*

EASY.

WE DISCOVERED WHAT HE WAS CREATING FOR A.I.M. AND REALIZED THAT HIS RESEARCH WAS THE KEY.

WE PROJECTED OURSELVES INTO HIS SUBCONSCIOUS TEMPORARILY.

THEN WE SHIFTED HIS LIFE FORCE BACK INTO ENERGY AND SENT IT BACK TO HIS ORIGINAL BODY ON EARTH.

SO YOU ALTERED THE NANOBOTS TO USE THE FLAME FROM MY GRAVE AS A POWER SOURCE TO REVITALIZE MY BODY?

PRECISELY! WE ONLY NEEDED A FEW MORE DAYS BEFORE WE COULD FULLY MAKE YOU WHOLE, BUT YOUR BODY WAS ACTIVATED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

YOUR WORLD NEEDS YOU ONCE MORE, AL.

WHAT'S THE PLAN?

WE NEED TO MAKE A DEVICE USING YOUR THEORIES TO MERGE OUR MINDS TOGETHER AGAIN...

"...OR EARTH WILL DIE IN A COSMIC INFERNO."

UHNGGG. WHERE...WHERE AM I?

WHOA. THIS...THIS IS INCREDIBLE!

OH MY LORD!

PLEASE... PLEASE KILL ME.

AAH!

WHO IS IT?

WHAT IS IT?

I... I...

KILL... ME.

WHAT A TINY LITTLE THING IT ISSSS...

OH...OH GOD.

YOUR GOD ISN'T HERE. AHHAHAHAHAH!

IT'S TOO LATE... END...HUKK... END YOUR... SELFFFF... HUK...

WHO'S... WHO'S HERE? WHO'S HERE!

WE ARE THE STRANGER. WELCOME TO OUR LABORATORY... SPECIMEN!

TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT ISSUE:

SILVER SURFER
GHOST LIGHT
#4

FOR MANY YEARS, THE TOWN OF SWEETWATER HAD THEIR MEMORIES STOLEN FROM THEM. BUT NOW THOSE MEMORIES HAVE BEEN RESTORED, AND THE PEOPLE ARE TEARING THEMSELVES APART! CAN THE SILVER SURFER AND GHOST LIGHT SAVE THE TOWN FROM ITSELF? AND WILL THEY DISCOVER WHO IS THEIR TORTURER?

ZONE